

Message Text

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ACTION IO-13

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 NEA-10 ISO-00 AF-08 ARA-06 EA-07 SSM-03

SAM-01 SAB-01 ACDA-07 HEW-04 DHA-02 SSO-00 NSCE-00

USIE-00 INRE-00 SP-02 AID-05 EB-07 NSC-05 CIEP-01

TRSE-00 SS-15 STR-04 OMB-01 CEA-01 CIAE-00 COME-00

FRB-03 INR-07 NSAE-00 XMB-02 OPIC-03 LAB-04 SIL-01

AGR-05 ORM-02 OES-06 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 L-03 PA-01

PRS-01 IOE-00 /160 W

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O R 231200Z JUL 76

FM USMISSION GENEVA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 1379

INFO AMEMBASSY CAIRO

USMISSION EC BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

USMISSION OECD PARIS

USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

C O N F I D E N T I A L GENEVA 5895

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: ECOSOC

SUBJ: 61ST ECOSOC: EGYPTIAN RESOLUTION ON ASSISTANCE TO
PALESTINIANS (AGENDA ITEM 22?)

REF: A. STATE 181166 B. GENEVA 5844 (NOTAL)

1. CONFIRMING POOLE/KITCHEN/LORENZ TELECON JULY 22,
WE HAVE DISCUSSED THE EGYPTIAN INFORMAL DRAFT RESOLUTION
ON ASSISTANCE TO THE PALESTINIAN PEOPLE (WHICH MAY BE
INTRODUCED UNDER ITEM 22 OR ANOTHER ITEM) WITH SOME OF OUR
WESTERN FRIENDS, PARTICULARLY THE UK, FRG AND FRANCE, ALL
OF WHOM AGREE THAT THE CALL FOR CONSULTATION AND COOPERA-
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TION WITH "THE PLO, THE REPRESENTATIVE OF THE PALESTINIAN

PEOPLE" (OPERATIVE PARA 2) IS UNACCEPTABLE AS BORDERING ON RECOGNITION. IN THESE CONVERSATIONS THE IDEA HAS BEEN TENTATIVELY DISCUSSED OF TRYING TO CHANGE THIS TO "INTERESTED PARTIES INCLUDING THE PLO," AND THE BRITISH DELEGATION FOR ONE HAS REQUESTED INSTRUCTIONS ON THIS.

2. WHILE WE DO NOT YET KNOW WHETHER THIS CHANGE WOULD BE ACCEPTABLE TO THE EGYPTIANS AND OTHER ARABS, THE DEPARTMENT MAY WISH TO CONSIDER IT AS A POSSIBLE MEANS OF AVOIDING AN OPEN CLASH ON THIS RESOLUTION. EVEN IF IT IS NOT ACCEPTED, WE WOULD AT LEAST HAVE SHOWN A WILLINGNESS TO SEEK AN ACCEPTABLE FORMULA. WITHOUT OUR MENTIONING THIS POSSIBLE CHANGE, EGYPTIANS HAVE INDICATED TO US THEY WISH TO AVOID CONFRONTATION ON THIS MATTER. THE DEPARTMENT SHOULD ALSO BEAR IN MIND THE FACT THAT WE ARE NEARING THE CRUCIAL POINT IN OUR NEGOTIATIONS ON THE US ILLICIT PAYMENTS INITIATIVE. SUPPORT OF EGYPT AND OTHER DELEGATIONS CONCERNED IS VERY IMPORTANT TO US ON THIS PRIORITY ISSUE. THE EXTENT TO WHICH WE CAN ACCOMMODATE THEM WITHOUT COMPROMISING ANY ESSENTIAL US POSITION OR INTEREST IN RELATION TO THE PLO/PALESTINIAN LANGUAGE FORMULATIONS MAY DETERMINE HOW SEVERAL OF THEM FINALLY LINE UP ON ILLICIT PAYMENTS.

3. WE DO NOT YET HAVE THE VIEWS OF THE ISRAELI OBSERVER HERE, BUT WOULD PREFER FIRST TO HAVE THE DEPARTMENT'S REACTION.

4. THE FOLLOWING POINTS MAY HAVE SOME BEARING:

(A) "INTERESTED PARTIES" COULD BE INTERPRETED TO INCLUDE OFFICIAL AND UNOFFICIAL ENTITIES AND EVEN THE ISRAELI GOVERNMENT WHEN PERTINENT;

(B) FROM A PRACTICAL STANDPOINT IT WOULD BE DIFFICULT TO CONCEIVE OF UN ASSISTANCE BEING GIVEN TO THOSE PALESTINIANS NOT UNDER ISRAELI JURISDICTION WITHOUT SOME CONTACT INTER ALIA WITH THE PLO;

(C) THE EXECUTIVE SECRETARY OF ECWA HAS TOLD US THERE
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IS A CONSULTATIVE BOARD TO UNRWA CONSISTING OF ECWA MEMBER COUNTRIES HOSTING PALESTINIAN REFUGEES PLUS THE PLO--A POINT WE CAN CHECK WITH THE UNRWA HIGH COMMISSIONER WHO IS DUE HERE JULY 26. WE DO NOT KNOW AT THE MOMENT DETAILS OF THIS CONSULTATIVE BOARD'S STATUS, HOWEVER.

(D) THE PLO HAS OBSERVER STATUS WITH ECWA;

(E) UNDER ECOSOC RULE 73 THE COUNCIL MAY INVITE ANY NATIONAL LIBERATION MOVEMENT RECOGNIZED BY OR IN ACCORDANCE WITH RESOLUTIONS OF THE GA (WHICH INCLUDES THE PLO) TO PARTICIPATE WITHOUT VOTE IN ECOSOC DELIBERATIONS ON SUBJECTS OF PARTICULAR CONCERN TO IT.

(F) WITH RESPECT TO ECWA'S ROLE, WE HAVE SUPPORTED THE EVALUATION AND COORDINATION FUNCTION OF THE REGIONAL COMMISSIONS ON REGIONAL PROJECTS.

5. RE STATE 181661, WE RECOGNIZE THE NEED FOR FULL REPORTING ON AN ISSUE LIKE THIS, BUT ASSUMED THE DEPARTMENT WOULD WANT THE TEXT IMMEDIATELY TO AFFORT MAXIMUM TIME FOR STUDY WHILE WE DEVELOPED BACKGROUND INFO HERE.

6. REQUEST INSTRUCTIONS SOONEST.DALE

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